

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A network power system that is capable of communicating and resolving various inline power allocation issues. The system includes a power source equipment having at least one output power interface capable of transmitting inline power, at least one powered device having an input power interface capable of receiving inline power, and a first transmission media that is coupled between the power source equipment and the at least one powered device. Either or both of the power source equipment and the at least one powered device includes a negotiator that is capable of communicating and resolving the at least one inline power allocation issue. The negotiator, independently or in combination with other negotiators, reaches a negotiated decision and performs at least one response function in an effort to resolve the at least one inline power allocation issue. The system may have a multi-point layout or be experiencing a power outage condition.